



# 2025 SUMMER ISSUE

A secure world without war. A just world at peace.

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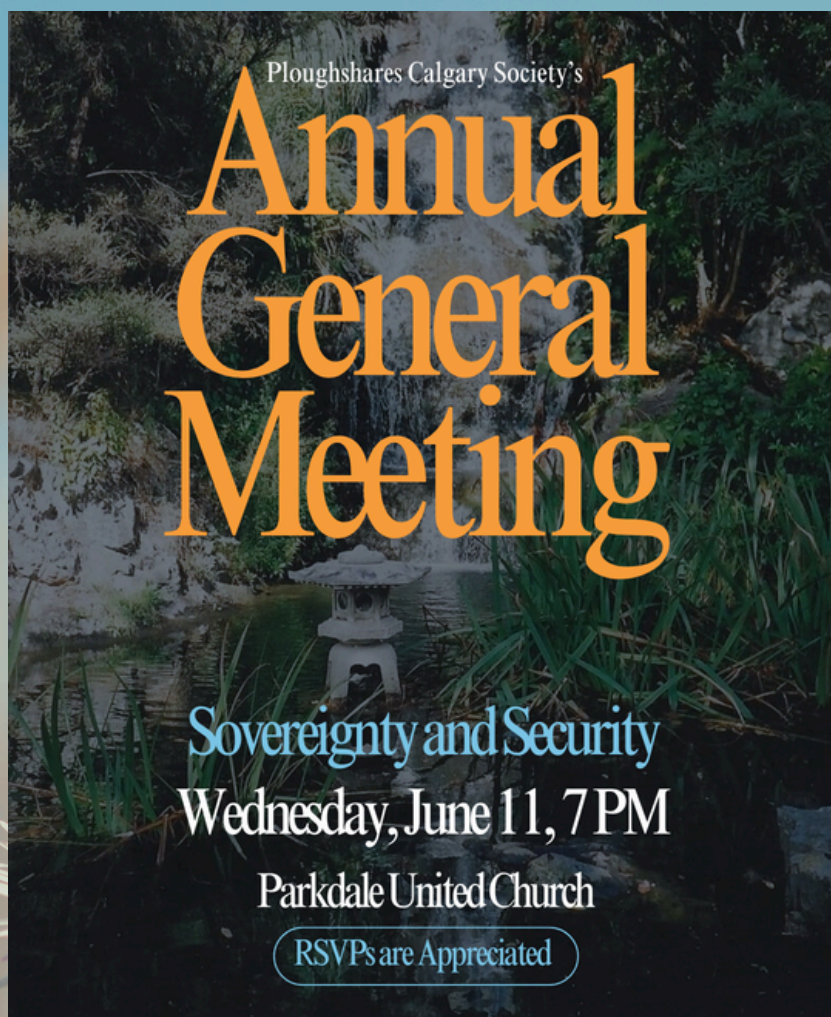
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## STAY IN TOUCH



[OFFICE@PLOUGHSHARESCALGARY.CA](mailto:OFFICE@PLOUGHSHARESCALGARY.CA)



@ PLOUGHSHARES CALGARY



@ PLOUGHSHARES\_CALGARY



PLOUGHSHARES CALGARY SOCIETY

## JOIN OUR ORGANIZATION!

Ploughshares Calgary Society is looking for people to fill the following roles.

If you are excited about getting involved in your community and being an advocate for sustainable peace and nuclear disarmament, this is for you.

More about the open volunteer positions below.

Applications and inquiries can be sent via email to  
[office@ploughsharescalgary.ca](mailto:office@ploughsharescalgary.ca)

### BOARD MEMBERS

Our organization is seeking dedicated and motivated individuals to join our board of directors. The role calls for you to be passionate about our mission and to attend monthly meetings/ events. The board will be selected during our Annual General Meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. All interested should attend.

### TREASURER

This opportunity is perfect for an accountant or bookkeeper skilled in QuickBooks, who is eager to make a difference. In this role, you'll oversee our financial records, create and manage budgets, and ensure transparency in our operations. Your support will be vital in helping us fulfill our mission. References and a police check will be required.

### SECRETARY

As the Ploughshares Calgary Society Secretary, you'll be responsible for keeping and overseeing the board meeting minutes and the board's records.

### EDUCATOR AMBASSADOR

Assisting the Educators for Peace & Justice in their work to create peace and justice in our lives, classrooms, and communities, you'll be responsible for creating and promoting educational resources, leading and supporting our network of peacemakers, teachers, and volunteers.

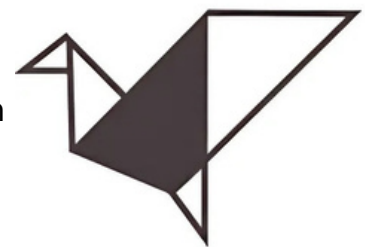
***Ploughshares Calgary** was originally established in 1982 as one of nine local groups supporting the mandate of the national anti-nuclear and pro-peace organization, **Project Ploughshares**. Due to requirements of the Canada Revenue Agency, we are now a separate organization. We share fundamental values and continue a productive relationship.*

## CESAR JARAMILLO TO STEP DOWN AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PROJECT PLOUGHSHARES

May 23, 2025

Cesar Jaramillo will be leaving Project Ploughshares on June 1, 2025 after a decade of leadership.

To view the full statement, click [here](#).



## RULES FOR OTHERS: SELECTIVE OUTRAGE, SILENT COMPLICITY, AND AN ALARMING LACK OF PRINCIPLED LEADERSHIP

Cesar Jaramillo

May 5, 2025



"Humanitarian norms are not designed to be flexible tools that can be adjusted to fit the pressures of each new crisis. They exist to respond to the exigencies of war. Abandoning them when they are inconvenient undermines their very purpose and introduces a dangerous relativism that cannot protect noncombatants from the effects of conflicts."

To view the full analysis, click [here](#).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

P.3

JUN  
**11**

## **Ploughshares Calgary Society's Annual General Meeting**

Parkdale United Church, 2919 8 Avenue NW

Free. 7:00 PM. Details and registration [here.](#)

JUN  
**14**

## **Raising Confident Kids, Electing Conscious Leaders.**

Parkdale United Church, 2919 8 Avenue NW

Free. 2:30 - 5:00 PM. Details and registration [here.](#)

JUN  
**21**

## **Pre-Conference on Global Nonviolence**

Hillhurst United Church, 1227 Kensington Close NW

9:00 am - 2:00 PM. Details and registration [here.](#)

AUG  
**9**

## **Lantern Peace Festival**

### **Featuring The Calgary International Speech Contest & Building A Culture of Peace Exhibition**

Devonian Gardens, 317 7 Ave SW 4 floor

Free. 12 - 4 PM. Details and registration [here.](#)

AUG  
**10**

## **Talk & Dialogue: Amplify the Voice for Peace!**

Central Library, 800 3 St SE

Free. 1:30 PM. Details and registration [here.](#)

AUG  
**16**

## **Peace Film Festival**

Online. Provides a diverse selection of films.

More information and registration [here.](#)

SEPT  
**10**

## **PCS Educational Event - SAVE THE DATE**

Parkdale United Church. Details to follow.

**What Canada needs now is more robust, visionary diplomacy, not more military spending** For lasting global security, Ernie Regehr argues, Canadian political leaders need to shift their focus away from military spending to strengthened diplomacy through peacekeeping, disarmament, climate action, and human rights protections. To view the full article, click [here](#).

## **Carney should reject Trump's Star Wars production**

An opinion piece by Douglas Roche discussing the consequences of Carney's decision for Canada to join the Golden Dome. To read the full piece, click [here](#).

## **Trump's Golden Dome- Canada should steer well clear of this American boondoggle**

Canada should avoid becoming entangled in the "Golden Dome"; the article critiques the missile defense proposal and its exorbitant cost and unlikely feasibility. To view the full article, click [here](#).

## **It's not too late to prevent a U.S. invasion of Greenland**

Written by Michael Byers, Canada Research Chair in Global Politics and International Law at UBC, this article explores the implications of President Trump's interest in acquiring Greenland and urges NATO countries to take preemptive diplomatic and military steps. To view the full article, click [here](#).

## **The World Is Changing Fast: It Is Now Crucial to Restructure the UN**

Due to the UN's current framework, established in 1945, Damian Lilly emphasizes an urgent need to restructure the United Nations to meet our rapidly changing world marked by geopolitical tensions, climate crises, and shifting power dynamics. To view the full essay, click [here](#).

## **Nuclear Deterrence;**

### **Untying the Gordian Knot "If You Want Peace, Prepare for Peace"**

On May 7, 2025, civil society groups submitted a statement to the 2025 Non-Proliferation Treaty Preparatory Committee. It was endorsed by 63 groups from 13 countries. To view the full statement, click [here](#).



## **Armenia and Azerbaijan agree treaty terms to end almost 40 years of conflict**

Armenia and Azerbaijan have finalized the text of a peace agreement aimed at ending nearly four decades of conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh. While Armenia is prepared to sign, Azerbaijan insists on constitutional amendments, delaying the treaty's finalization. To view the full article, click [here](#).

## **The Austria Option for Ukraine**

Referencing the Austrian State Treaty signed in 1955, Marilyn Langlois draws a parallel and proposes a similar fate could be in store for Ukraine.

To view the full article, click [here](#).

## **Costly Signals: Possible De-escalation Measures between Russia and Ukraine**

With diplomatic efforts aiming to bring the Russian and Ukrainian war to an end, and intense history causing a lack of trust between the two nations, how can de-escalation occur? Ultimately, the actions of both countries need to speak the loudest.

To view the full publication, click [here](#).

## **Comparing casualties in Gaza to Ukraine**

Examining the civilian death toll in Ukraine and Gaza revealed that Gaza has seen vastly higher casualties in a shorter time period and with a much smaller population.

To view the full article, click [here](#).

## **France spent €90,000 countering research into impact of Pacific nuclear tests**

Revealing that Paris has underestimated the impacts of nuclear tests in France.

To view the full article, click [here](#).

## **India and Pakistan on the Brink of War**

A history of the decade-long conflict between India and Pakistan as tension builds, and the threat of their 5<sup>th</sup> war looms, written by Joe Cirincione.

To view the full Substack article, click [here](#).

## **India and Pakistan Remind Us We Need to Stop the Risk of Nuclear War**

The escalating risk of a nuclear war between India and Pakistan and its consequences.

To view the full piece, click [here](#).

## NOBEL LAUREATES URGE PRESIDENTS TRUMP AND PUTIN TO MEET AND AGREE ON DENUCLEARIZATION

April 28, 2025

Nihon Hidankyo, ICAN, and International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War have come together to send a joint letter urging Presidents Trump and Putin to meet and agree to nuclear disarmament. This action was prompted by stated openness to the talks by both Trump and Moscow.

View the full ICAN letter [here](#).



## CNANW LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER CARNEY

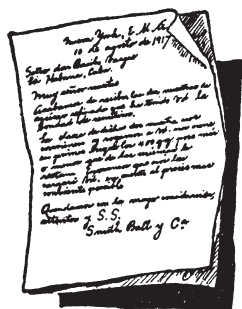
May 22, 2025

The CNANW's letter to Prime Minister Carney highlights the influence and responsibilities he has during this critical time. Emphasizing the threat of nuclear weapons, the letter provides an overview of the history, as well as the current climate, of nuclear weapons. Ultimately, it urges him and the government to pursue and prioritize nuclear disarmament for the safety of all.

To view the full CNANW letter, click [here](#).

## OPEN LETTER TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING GAZA

June 1, 2025

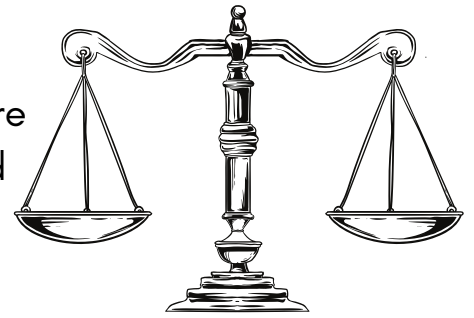


This Pugwash letter requests the UN Member States to take action regarding the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. It provides an overview of what the international response would need to be, and implores the UN to act morally, and urgently.

View the full Pugwash letter [here](#).

## Four countries that have successfully reversed democratic decline in recent years

A chart illustrating how four countries that all saw severe declines in democracy over the past 20 years managed to stop, resisting authoritarianism and even reversing democratic erosion. ([Our World In Data](#))



## New butterfly species discovered in Alberta grasslands after 40,000 years of isolation

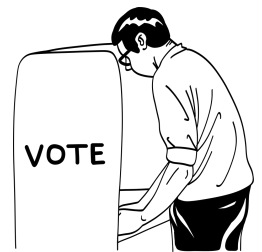


The new species, officially named the curiously isolated hairstreak, was recently discovered in Waterton Lakes National Park. This emphasizes the importance of rare species conservation.

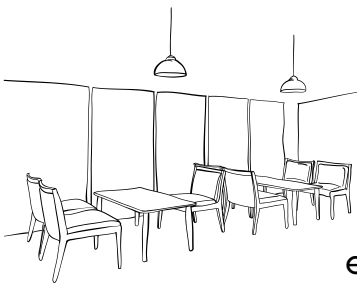
([Western Standard News](#))

## Advanced Voting Numbers in Canada

Advanced voting saw record-breaking numbers, with more than 7.3 million votes over the 4-day period and 2 million people casting their vote on the first day. ([City News](#))



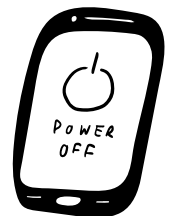
## The restaurant staffed solely by people who've experienced homelessness



Home Kitchen in North London is a not-for-profit fine dining establishment that is the first of its kind, as nearly all of its employees have experienced homelessness. ([Positive News](#))

## Young Adults Joining 'Offline Clubs' Across Europe to Replace Screen Time with Real Time

This Dutch social movement is aiding smartphone addiction by creating screen-free public spaces and events. ([Good News Network](#))



## This Man Will Listen to You Talk About Anything, Won't Charge a Dime, and Is Coming to a Town Near You

Paul Jenkinson, a former social worker, is enjoying retirement by traveling across Canada and listening to strangers.

([Good News Network](#))





## **NONVIOLENCE AND PEACE MOVEMENTS:** **CRASH COURSE WORLD HISTORY 228**

In this YouTube video, John Green teaches about nonviolence and peace movements in the 20th century.

Traditionally, humans have often resorted to violence when they come into conflict.

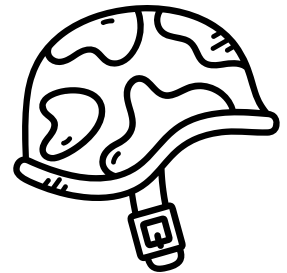
In the 20th century, it became much more common for people to enact change by means of nonviolence, and there was a common thread of connection between many of the most notable advocates of peaceful change.

Watch the Crash Course video [here](#).

## **7 MYTHS THAT SUSTAIN THE GLOBAL ARMS TRADE** **BY DED UCATION**

Based on the book *Indefensible: 7 Myths that Sustain the Global Arms Trade* this series breaks down the narratives fed to the public upholding the military-industrial complex.

Watch the videos [here](#).



## **STATUS OF WORLD NUCLEAR FORCES**

With updated information and useful statistics, this article by the Federation of American Scientists (FAS) provides a helpful overview.

View the article [here](#).

## **NO MONEY FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

ICAN has compiled information on the nine nuclear-armed states and their spending on nuclear warheads. They hope that creating clear and accessible information will help as a vital key to taking action.

To view the full website page, click [here](#).

To view the 1 page PDF infographic, click [here](#).

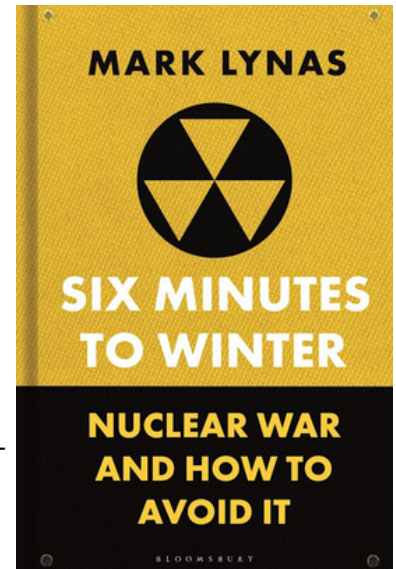


## **SIX MINUTES TO WINTER:**

### **NUCLEAR WAR AND HOW TO AVOID IT**

The world is currently closer to superpower conflict than at any time since the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis. World War III is a real possibility, and with 12,000 warheads in the arsenals of more than half a dozen countries, we are standing on a nuclear knife edge.

Six Minutes to Winter presents an unflinching view of the nuclear nightmare, but also describes how weapons can be taken off hair-trigger alert and ultimately abolished altogether. If human civilization is to survive long-term, we have no alternative.



## **PEACEABLE REVOLUTIONS**

A NYRB REVIEW OF SEVEN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS THAT CHANGED AMERICA

A book by scholar Linda Gordon addressing key questions such as "How do social movements arise, wield power, and bring about meaningful change?"

Read the full review [here](#).

## **CALGARY FLOATING LANTERNS FOR PEACE PRESENTS**

### **PEACE FILM FESTIVAL**

A diverse selection of films that explore themes of social justice, human rights, disarmament, and the power of community.

To join the festival online on August 16<sup>th</sup>, click [here](#).



## **WE STUDY FASCISM,**

### **AND WE'RE LEAVING THE U.S.**

In this New York Times opinion video, Marci Shore, Timothy Snyder, and Jason Stanley discuss the current political climate in America and why they've chosen to relocate to Canada.

Watch the full video [here](#).

